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BEZA to set up 1000MW solar electricity zone in Chandpur

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Bangladesh Economic Zone Authority (BEZA) has planned to set up a solar power zone in Baher Char area in Chandpur district with a target of generating at least 1000 megawatts (MW) of electricity.

"The authority has started the process of acquiring around 4000 acres of land in Baher Char to develop the solar zone, which will be the country's biggest hub for solar power," said BEZA Executive Chairman Paban Chowdhury, reported BSS.

The BEZA chief also said the solar power zone could be named after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman if an approval is given by the Prime Minister Office.

"Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) and POWERCHINA have shown interest in developing the solar zone," said the BEZA chief, hoping that the construction of the solar zone will begin soon so it can start generating electricity from next year.. BPDB will get 1,000 acres land, and the rest 3,000 acres for POWERCHINA for setting up the solar zone.

"A major percentage of the electricity generated through this would be supplied to the national grid to help meet the growing demand for electricity," said BEZA chief.

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Bangladesh is now producing 15,579 MW of electricity and the government aims to generate 24,000 MW of power by 2021 and 60,000 MW by 2041 to meet the ever growing demand for electricity, of whose at least 10% would be met from renewable sources including solar power systems.

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8/C, FR Tower, Panthapath, Dhaka 1207, Bangladesh.

Kazi Anis Ahmed, Publisher